

PATENT  
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Signature of person mailing correspondence

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Michael E. Mendelsohn et al.	Art Unit:	1652
Serial No.:	10/715,632	Examiner:	K. H. Gebreyesus
Filed:	November 17, 2003	Customer No.:	21559
Title:	COMPOSITIONS INVOLVING M-RIP, AND RELATED METHODS FOR SCREENING FOR ANTI-HYPERTENSIVE AGENTS, AND USES THEREOF		

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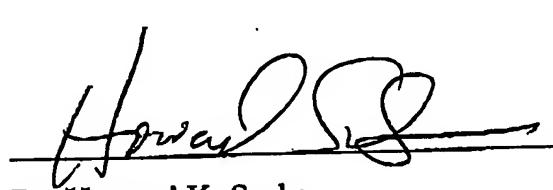
COMBINED DECLARATION OF DR. HOWARD K. SURKS  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.131 and 1.132

1. I am a joint inventor on the above-referenced patent application.
2. I have read the Office Action mailed November 4, 2004.
3. Any description of the above-referenced invention in Surks et al., J. Biol. Chem. 2003, 278:51484-51493 was the contribution of Michael E. Mendelsohn and myself alone, notwithstanding the inclusion of an additional author on the paper.
4. Claims 5, 6, and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) by Inazawa et al. GenBank accession no. AB098507, which was published on June 21, 2003. The claimed

invention was reduced to practice on or before May 12, 2003, as evidenced by the date of submission of SEQ ID NO: 19 of the instant application to GenBank (Exhibit A).

5. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patents issued thereon.

Date: 4/28/05



Dr. Howard K. Surks

## EXHIBIT A

RPTEKQEAELGEPDPEQKTSRARERRREGRSKTFDWAEFRPIQQALAQERVGGVGPAD  
 THEPLRPEAESGELERERARREERRKRGMLDATDGPGLTEADAALRMEVDRSPGLPMS  
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## ORIGIN

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